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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Satellite States

SUBJECT Formation of New East European Army

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. A delegation of the Czechoslovak general staff, headed by General Hečko and General Rytíř, has left for Moscow to attend a military conference. The purpose will be the formation of a "European Army for the Defense of Peace."
2. Marshal L. A. Govorov will preside over the conference, which will take up a plan already drawn for the incorporation of units of all the satellite armies. The plan has the approval of Marshal Zhukov, who has been charged by Moscow with the basic revision of Soviet military strategy. The first plan for the formation of the East European army was drawn by Marshal Koniev, but it was abandoned and the task was turned over to a commission headed by Marshal Govorov. Nevertheless, it is intended that Koniev shall be the supreme commander of such an army when it is formed.
3. The formation of the new army is intended to be announced when and if it is decided fully to rearm East Germany.
4. The participation of Soviet units in the army is not envisaged, except for instructors and experts. In the Czechoslovak general staff it is expected that the cooperation of satellite armies will become much more practical as a result of the conference, especially in the aviation field. Results of the conference will not be known for several weeks. If important decisions are necessary, Generals Čepička and Hruška will go to the conference.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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